GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1312
ANSWERED ON:02.03.2001
IMPORT OF VEGETABLE OIL
GADDE RAMAMOHAN

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to reduce the import of vegetable oil from various countries in view large scale production of vegetable oil in the country during last six months;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this move will enable the farmers to get better minimum support price for their produce; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (S SREENIVASA PRASAD)

(a) The Government has thrice revised the duty structure of edible oils in a span of eleven months. A major objective of the rationalisation of the duty structure has been to reduce the level of import of edible oils.

(b) As per information available from DGCIS, Ministry of Commerce the imports of edible oilshave gone down from 38.59 lakh MTs in 1998-99 to 34.55 lakh MTs in 1999-2000.

(c) & (d) : Another objective of the measure has been to enable better minimum support price to the farmers for their produce. Currently the wholesale prices of mustard/rapeseed and groundnut (in shell) which together constitute around 60% of the total oilseeds production have been higher than their corresponding MSPs as shown below:-

(Rs./Quintal)

Seed	MSP	Wholesale price as on 23.2.2001
Mustard/Rapeseed	1100	1205
Groundnut(In shell)	1220	1435